

the organized farmer

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F.U.A. DISTRICT 14 ANNUAL CONVENTION

Two Conventions Down; Twelve More To Go

By Molly Coupland

Two District Conventions held in March are always the first evidence of spring, and a change of season for the F.U.A. Districts 13 and 14 held their annual meetings March 16 and 17, with F.U.A. president Paul Babey speaking at both.

Annual District 14 F.U.A. Convention held in Lethbridge March 17 with about 100 delegates and visitors present.

Mr. Paul Babey, F.U.A. President addressed the gathering on membership, new card index system, auto pool administration and role of new organization. Compared production efficiency of Alberta farmers to a smooth working sports car, but marketing procedures are not up to the same standard. He advocated the complete control of marketing by farmers. "Until we do," he said, "We will be in trouble."

Dr. M. N. Grant from Lethbridge Research Station spoke on Winalta Wheat, its hardness, early maturity, resistance to shattering better than Kharkoff. Winalta is not superior to spring wheat for milling, but is close in baking qualities.

Mrs. May Huddleston representing provincial F.W.U.A. in her address mentioned women's role in new farm organization. All should pull together to meet present day changes. She outlined the proposed exchange visits of students, citizenship camp, and she asked that all locals send in contributions to help finance this project. In closing she read a poem "Are you one of the flock that follows."

More Fire Protection

Mr. Ken Jensen, Junior F.U.A. President appealed to all members to back the Juniors in their money raising project and asked for volunteer help needed in November to cut trees so a new fire guard can be made around Goldeye Lake Camp. He stressed the need for a

strong organization for young people.

District Directors Mr. Olaf Mehlen and Mrs. M. L. Roberts reported on their various activities during the past year and activities of F.W.U.A. locals. Both expressed the need of having strong locals and what a farm organization means to farm men and women.

Some 20 odd resolutions were dealt with and passed: Government allow western farmers to buy feed grain at competitive price from elevator; long term loans with low interest rates for natural gas installation; requested higher standard by CBC in selection of television programs; assistance in installation of farm water systems, drilling wells; Canadian Wheat Board establish grade for Winalta Wheat and promote sale; Wheat Board permit books be allowed to distinguish between spring wheat, durum and winter wheat; Recommended Canadian Federation of Agriculture investigate possibility of co-operation with Provincial Departments of Agriculture, University of Extension services and CBC in promoting radio and television services related to rural Adult Education as alternative to National Farm Forum radio programs favored another TV satellite station in southern Alberta; Asked provincial government to take over operation and maintenance of rural telephones, need of drainage in all southern Alberta; All constitutional amendments suggested by Provincial Board were endorsed, as well as the raising of the membership fee. Endorsed principal of F.U.A. organization

RADWAY S-D HAS \$430 SURPLUS



Paul Babey addressed the annual meeting of the Thorhild County in F.U.A. District 4, held in the evening of March 19 in Radway Community Hall. About sixty attended. This was just one of a series of meetings which Mr. Babey was able to attend. The Sub-District conventions are leading up to the District annual meetings which will be held later in spring.

At Radway, Joe Kuzik was re-elected sub-director, and John Yurkiw remains his alternate. Sub-district 1 (Thorhild) reported a total membership for 1965 of 563. The county organization had a total income of \$917 and expenses of \$487, leaving a surplus of \$430.

Among the reports given that evening was that of Mrs. Zitorky, who took part in the F.U.A. Membership Tour this year. Lester Stenkowski reported on the arrangements for Farm Young People's Night at Thorhild for April 3. He said the feature speaker was to be Dean Bentley of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Alberta.

Mr. Babey said he was glad to come home to District 4, which he had been director of for several years before becoming president. Mr. Babey said that the Farmers' Union faces a hard year, unless greater effort is made to bring in more members. He said membership is down 3,000 this year, which means a deficit in the F.U.A. budget of about \$10,000. This might force the F.U.A. to curtail its program for the year he said.

Those in the picture are, left to right: Norman Flach (Alternate Director District 4), Paul Babey, Junior Director Lester Stenkowski, and Sub-Director Joe Kuzik.



ELECTION OF OFFICERS for F.U.A. District 13 took place in Medicine Hat March 16 at the District Convention. Re-elected by acclamation was Jack Muza (left) for his sixth term. Elected as F.W.U.A. Director was Mrs. Thelma Duby. Elected as alternate Directors were Mrs. Mary Osadchuk for the F.W.U.A. and Reinhold Lehr for the F.U.A. The District 13 and 14 conventions are held earlier than those in other districts of the province. Other conventions will be held during June.

be adequately financed by all farmers, details to be worked out by committee responsible to Provincial Board.

Only resolution defeated was that of establishing of licensed private game bird shooting preserves.

Mr. Olaf Mehlen, Iron Springs and Mr. V. Brock Christie of Cardston re-elected as Director and Alternate F.U.A. Directors. Mrs. M. L. Roberts, Lethbridge also re-elected as F.W.U.A. Director.

MEDICINE HAT MEETING

A motion was drafted by the delegates to the District 13 meeting in Medicine Hat concerning the statement by Agriculture Minister Harry Strom about the Verigin Bankruptcy.

The convention stated, "It is unfortunate that the only solution proposed is, in effect, social welfare."

Other resolutions passed included—a request that the federal government consider putting into effect their election promise of two dollar wheat; that deer and antelope hunting be postponed until November 1 because of fire hazards and round-up time; request that wildlife damage section of Game Act cover stored hay and grain; increase in membership fees; asked F.U.A. to assist with setting up of marketing association for vegetables.

Dr. A. F. Laidlaw C.M.H.A. Director

The minister of Citizenship and Immigration in the federal government has announced the re-appointment of Dr. Alex F. Laidlaw, to the board of directors of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation for a three-year term beginning April 1.

New Process For Preserving Milk

Consultations are taking place between the British Ministries of Agriculture and Health on a new process of ultra-high temperature sterilization, which, it is claimed, makes it possible to keep milk for six months unrefrigerated in any climate. Refrigerated, the milk is stated to have unlimited keeping qualities. The Ministry investigations will decide whether the heat treatment method should be authorized by the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations in the same was as pasteurized and sterilized milk is at present.



Henry A. Ruste

New Minister of Lands and Forests for Alberta is a long time active member of the F.U.A. Mr. Ruste represents the Wainwright Constituency. He was first elected to the Legislature in 1955. Before this, he had served as a Sub-Director for the F.U.A.

Too Many Overfinished Hogs

Alberta could easily slip back into its previous position of being the lowest grade A hog producing province in Canada unless the increasing number of overfinished market hogs is curtailed.

According to A. J. Charnetski, Live Stock Supervisor with the provincial Department of Agriculture, federal grading personnel report that too many pigs are being marketed at maximum weights for Grade A carcasses. The accepted range is from 135 to 170 pounds dressed.

Mr. Charnetski says that many grade B carcasses, weighing 165 pounds, could easily have qualified for an A grade if they had been 10 pounds lighter. This would have meant a saving in feed and a larger net profit per pig. The difference between A and B grade pigs of the same weight is \$4.50

per head. Mr. Charnetski recommends marketing hogs between 190 and 210 pounds liveweight, depending upon type, quality and degree of finish.

Too much use of low protein feeds during the early feeding period is another factor which contributes to lower grades. This practice prevents young pigs from attaining their full genetic potential for red meat growth, says Mr. Charnetski.

Cross-breeding on the basis of colour or mixing breeds without regard to quality, or genetic potential for higher market grades in both parents, is the quickest way to lower grades. Mr. Charnetski points out that cross-breeding programs can only work to advantage when top quality purebred boars from high testing stock are used on top quality grade or purebred sows of another breed.

Income of U.S. Farmers Inadequate

Most of the farmers in the United States are not earning adequate incomes, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman told farm organization representatives in Washington recently.

"Fewer than 400,000 farmers earn a wage comparable to that of a skilled industrial worker and a return of five per cent on investment. Between two and three million farmers fall short of that investment return and the national minimum hourly wage," he said.

Citing improved farm earning opportunity as the prime reason for agricultural legislation, Mr. Freeman called price support and supply management programs "economic tools" and described consumers as major beneficiaries. "If farm prices of domestic food products had increased at the same rate as wholesale prices of non-food products in the past decade, consumers would be spending about \$4 billion a year more for food than they are now," the Secretary declared.

C.C.I.L. Returns 11 Per Cent

Sales of Canadian Co-operative Implements Ltd. amounted to \$24,800,000 in 1964, a 44% increase over the previous year. Net surplus was \$2,059,000 of which \$1,958,000 was returned to members in patronage refunds. CCIL serves more than 60,000 members through 60 depots in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

FIRE DELAYS SURVEY

Recently, a fire in an Edmonton warehouse had more than usual interest to officials and staff of F.U. & C.D.A.

By a tragic coincidence, 500 copies of the newly completed "Project: Discovery" report by Dr. L. B. Doscher on farmer attitudes were destroyed in the blaze.

The books had been printed on Central F.U.A. Office duplicating equipment, and were being sent out to have covers bound on them. Because the cartage firm that was to move the books did not pick the load until too late in the afternoon to complete the delivery, the valuable cargo was stored in a warehouse over night.

No one around here believes, or will admit that the reports were too hot. In fact, the books are presently being reprinted. They should be available again in two or three weeks.

Editorial . . .

FARM UNION INSURANCE POOLS

Another good bet that many members are overlooking is the savings offered by the F.U.A. Insurance Pools.

Three pools are in operation at the present time—each doing a very effective job. The first pool, our Auto Insurance Pool was set up in an effort to effect savings on auto insurance. Co-op Fire and Casualty accepted the responsibility to underwrite and administer this pool at cost. The Pool went into operation in 1960 and since then has saved the members some \$60,000.00 in dividends with an equal amount being set aside in reserves. Due to the fact that claims and costs of repairs have been higher in the last two years no dividends have been paid.

With the success of the Auto Pool the Insurance committee negotiated with Co-op Insurances to set up another pool for farm insurance. This covers farm fire insurance, liability insurance, as well as insurance on machinery, farm buildings, livestock, produce, household contents and many more. The Bonus Plan introduced in 1962 provides that all insurance other than auto and life can be incorporated into one package plan. A dividend of 8% on the total premium for the expiring policy has been authorized, to be applied as a credit on renewals.

The third program, a group life insurance plan offers \$10,000.00 term life insurance to any healthy F.U.A. member between the ages of 15 and 37 for an annual fee of \$25.00 plus \$2.00 first year policy fee. Over 37 the premium remains the same but the coverage is reduced \$500.00 per year to age 55. Applicants over 40 are required to have a medical at the expense of the company.

Ed Nelson, past president of the F.U.A. sums it up this way: "What we have provided for our members is insurance at cost. No profit accrues to members., no one is exploited. It is a true "Cost and Loss" experience of Alberta farmers who are members and policy holders of the Insurance Pools."

OPEN FORUM

Box 696, Medicine Hat,
March 17th, 1965

Dear Sir:

Just one month ago today, all of the tour members said adieu to each other, most of us total strangers and in a few days it seemed we were all neighbors.

First of all I give my thanks to the U.F.A. Co-op who sponsored the tour for us F.U.A. members on our work we had done.

The next thanks go to Mr. Cornie Versluys our tour leader, who took on the tour as a chairman of the Membership Committee for 1965 did an excellent job, also to Mrs. Cornie Versluys who I'm sure gave us some help.

I have attendel District 13 convention, March 16th and enjoyed every bit of it, report of District Director on Resolutions, address of President, Mr. Paul Babey, also the slides and talks of the tour last year to China and Japan.

At the convention I met a delegate from Rainier and asked him where he left Adolf Nielsen, and he told me he had a severe heart attack. We wish him a speedy recovery—those of the tour members will remember him because he and I were the only ones missing till they got on the Canadian where we all joined together for a short while and too soon it was adieu.

The weather is kind of cold this time of year, 10 below this morning. To all of you that I met on the tour hello, and if you ever come to Medicine Hat, come and see us

FARMERS' UNION OF ALBERTA

9934 - 106 St., Edmonton, Alta.
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After 5:00 p.m. 489-6955

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Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Sikusi Introduced To Public

Hon. Arthur Laing, minister of northern affairs and national resources, last week introduced Sikusi — a toy Arctic ice-worm created by a group of Eskimo women at Tuktoyaktuk, N.W.T., in the western Arctic.

He described Sikusi as a friend of Oopkik, the toy Arctic owl created by the Fort Chimo, Quebec, Eskimo co-operative.

At a press conference at the National Press Club of Canada, Mr. Laing said he hopes Canadian manufacturers will be licensed to mass produce the Sikusi design, as total of 17 Canadian individuals and firms now are licensed to reproduce the Oopkik symbol in various forms.

He unveiled Sikusi by cracking open, with a hammer, a block of ice in which the fur ice-worm toy was embedded.

The minister also paid tribute to the Canadian news media and to the Co-operative Union of Canada for promoting Oopkik and the Eskimo co-operatives

And he said he hopes Eskimo-created toys "from the land of Santa Claus" will be sold in ever-increasing numbers on the U.S. market.

Tuktoyaktuk is at the mouth of the MacKenzie River, not far from Aklavik. The eight women who created Sikusi are trainees

in a vocational training fur-garment project.

The Sikusi mark has been registered in the name of the Tuktoyaktuk group and the Co-operative Union of Canada has agreed to act as the group's official agent for the interim period.

Medicare Measure

There should be only one measuring stick for Canada's proposed Health Plan, and that is—will it bring necessary health services to all Canadians?

It is not a question of whether our governments like it. It is not a question of whether insurance companies like it. It is not really a question of whether the medical profession likes it. It is very simply a question of whether all the health needs of all Canadians can be better provided under a National Health Plan than under our present system. This is the over-riding question. If the answer is yes, as our F.U.A. organization believes it is, then we need a National Health Plan.

If such a plan will provide more and better service than we are getting at present, we should support it. If it weakens our present services in any way, then we should oppose it. One of the best ways of deciding is to find out who is for the plan and who is against it.

—Bill Harper

Rapeseed Researchers Mission To Japan

Dr. D. R. Slandinin, Head of the Department of Animal Science at the University of Alberta, will serve on a two-man Scientific Mission to Japan for three weeks on behalf of the federal Department of Trade and Commerce. The other member of the team is Dr. M. Bell of the University of Saskatchewan.

The purpose of the trip is to acquaint Japanese researchers, government representatives, livestock and poultry raisers, and feed mill operators with the results of Canadian research and experience, especially at the Universities of Alberta and Saskatchewan, on the use of rapeseed meal in livestock and poultry rations.

Approximately seventy-five per cent of the rapeseed produced in Canada is exported representing about \$20,000,000 annually to the Canadian economy. Japan already receives two-thirds of this export. Consequently, the attempt by this two-man Scientific mission to increase rapeseed meal trade with Japan could produce results of great significance to the Canadian economy

Doctors tell us that we would eat less if we would eat more slowly. This is particularly true for members of large families.

DISTRICT 3 OVER THE TOP

At the last annual convention of the F.U.A., Central Office was given a job to do; the job of carrying out the F.U.A. program for 1965.

This program can only be carried out with the complete support of the members. Our budget for getting this job done was based on approximately the same number of membership units for this year as there was last year, 25,500. To date, we are short by 3,000 members.

Congratulations should go out to those locals and sub-districts which are over the top, with more members this year than last. And to District 3, with hard wroking Director Dobson Lea getting a lot of old fashioned co-operation from his members and officials, the whole organization says "Keep up the good work." As of March 3, District 3 (north of Edmonton) had totalled 143 members more than 1964. So far, this is the only District to have climbed past last year's mark.

Included with this article is a run down on the current membership standings, district by district, with a third column showing the difference under last year.

If your area is one of these falling short, please put on that final drive which has been waiting for a break in the weather, before spring work gets rolling completely. The organization needs the money and the members to do the job the delegates have asked it to do.

The Convention urged us to do a good job for a WHOLE YEAR, not just a part of a year. F.U.A. efforts and services on your behalf are planned on an annual basis.

There is still time. Don't wait for the canvasser to call on you—call on him. Better still, send your membership direct to Central Office.

UNIT MEMBERSHIP

	1963-64	At March 31, 1965	
District 1	1743	1678	65 below
District 2	1654	1371	283 below
District 3	1503	1640	137 OVER
District 4	1781	1398	383 below
District 5	1970	1632	338 below
District 6	2245	1770	475 below
District 7	1504	1259	245 below
District 8	2339	2020	319 below
District 9	2159	1956	203 below
District 10	3091	2821	270 below
District 11	1135	1064	71 below
District 12	2175	2027	148 below
District 13	952	820	132 below
District 14	1157	1049	108 below
TOTAL	25408	22505	

Don't wait any longer, use Application Form below:

SORRY I'M LATE!

Please renew my unit membership for the 1964-65 membership year.
(List yourself, wife, and all children between 14-21 years of age)

Name Address Local

PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED \$6.00 IN CHEQUE ☐ MONEY ORDER ☐
Remit to: FARMERS' UNION OF ALBERTA
9934 - 106 Street, Edmonton, Alta.

at 2690 Burton Place, S.E., or if you are lost phone 7-4537, or if you are planning to come through this part of Alberta, drop me a line and I will make arrangements to tour different industries that will be very interesting to you.

Hoping to meet you all again,
Yours truly,
David Deering

A Plan For Action

Dear Sirs:

Most every professional or labor group in the industrial world today owes its favorable financial position to its own organization, and co-operation within its particular group. This most thoroughly realized and appreciated by most progressive of those who have seen fit to drop their own petty differences in favor of a strong mutual voice. We farmers, the largest group of all, are most pathetic in that instead of leading the way we have instead become the most exploited of all, because of our own ignorance, greed, and unwillingness to co-operate.

We go to any length to blame the other fellow—meaning our neighbor farmers—for his indifferent attitude when it comes to supporting mutual endeavor. We ourselves, are easily just as guilty. Here are a few quick reminders to suggest how our indifference has failed to pay off. (However, before reading the comparisons below, let us remind the farmer who having garnered the employment of his entire family, his total assets, and those of his father before him, does not equal the earning reward of most employed persons.)

Income for most all Civic Service groups, military personnel, Police Departments, auto workers, steel workers, all professional groups, etc. (which means most every relative you have that is not primarily engaged in Agriculture) has doubled since 1946. The farmers have dropped from the 1946 figure in real dollar returns. The most piercing of all to the farmer is the rise in wages which has taken place in the very groups that are advising farmers how to farm, but are not farming themselves (professional agriculturists). Surely, this makes it absolutely apparent without going into further obvious comparisons, that the farmer is becoming a second class citizen in terms of net dollars earned and hence a second class citizen in society. Most every daily newspaper points to a handsome percentage wage increase over the next 10 to 20

(Continued on page 3)



FIRST FARM MACHINERY SYNDICATE—FCC credit adviser in Camrose, H. A. Humphries (seated), is flanked by Dean and Roy Cunningham while George, standing behind his father, chats with L. R. Rose, FCC credit supervisor for the area. The Cunninghams were the first farmers in Canada to form a syndicate and obtain a loan under the new federal Farm Machinery Syndicates Credit Act.

OPEN FORUM . . .

(Continued from page 2)

years for all other groups; while our own "benefactors" cannot even predict a price increase — let alone avoid a price drop. It is time we awoke to the fact that politics and people as they are, will not see the farmer make a fair share with the rest of society for a comparable effort. Sadly related to this dire state of conditions, is the fact that asking 100% of the farmers to support a scheme for mutual benefit, seems almost impossible to achieve; so hence the following endeavor and plan which requires only a very minimum of participation, and this should especially suit the many farmers today who will not better the group to better themselves — for which I know not why! The majority participating in the following plans guarantees success beyond the shadow of a doubt.

- (1) With-holding tax monies.
- (2) With-holding monies for farm equipment and operations.
- (3) Continuing this with-holding until the governments which so liberally pre-

scribes equality for all, see fit to set up a committee which guarantees a basic living standard to all farmers — be he large or small. Let this committee's scope include all other small under-privileged and under-paid groups.

The above suggestion even in failure, is success; because the worst it can do is hasten us down the road of which we were already travelling

In brief rebuttal to the already obvious answer that continually comes from the powers that be (don't bore us with the quotation), "where is money coming from" because politics sees fit to spread standard of living very liberally

to a few mentioned groups whose daily working hours shrink and whose wages rise continually. If the price of steel rises and Members of Parliament and MLA's wages increase and policemen's wages rise and colonels' wages rise, etc., why cannot the farmers? Their only truthful answer would be, it is better to give a lot to some, then equality for all.

This is a nation which is supposed to have one of the highest standards of living in the world. But we note that this is only for certain groups, who themselves are unwilling to share it unless forced.

We, through withholding our monies, would gain recognition for our cause. We must do so now or

New Benefits

Co-operative Insurance Society (Great Britain) recently announced that it was increasing policyholders' coverage by an average 10 per cent without any increase in premiums — a new way to extend benefits to co-op members. Now the second largest insurance concern in Britain, CIS is jointly owned by two co-op wholesales, CWS and SCWS.

Kelsey Farmers Form First Machinery Syndicate

An Alberta farmer and his two sons have the distinction of being the first to form a syndicate and obtain a loan under the new federal Farm Machinery Syndicates Credit Act.

The three are Dean Cunningham and sons George and Roy of Kelsey near Camrose, Alta. They are members of the Albury F.U.A. Local, Number 858.

"I am particularly pleased that the first loan under the Act has been taken out by farmers on family-sized operations," said Hon. Hary Hays, Agriculture Minister. "We expect this new federal program to be of assistance to any farmer who needs it in any part of Canada. But we were interested in helping the family farm in particular to meet the rising cost of production machinery. I think the first loans under this program indicate that it is on the way toward doing just that."

The Act was passed last October and the Farm Credit Corporation, which administers the legislation, was ready to accept applications last month.

Not Large Enough

The Cunninghams are grain and

in the near future there won't be a cause as we won't have any money to with-hold, and then the higher paid groups will be supporting us with welfare. And so, if this is what you want, forget this article, forget the plan and throw the paper on the shelf with all the other discarded ambitions of the sad and pathetic complainers who don't even have the guts to participate, let alone provide the force, the energy and the time to get this thing rolling.

Reg D. Kendrick
Morinville

livestock farmers who felt that their individual farms were not large enough to carry the investment, interest and depreciation on three sets of power equipment.

The father, 65, farms 160 acres of cultivated land. George, the older son, owns a quarter section and rents another for a total of 310 acres of improved land Roy rents and operates a 305-acre farm. Both sons are married.

Having shared equipment in the past and recognizing the advantages of co-operative use of farm machinery, the Cunninghams were among the first to visit the local FCC credit adviser in Camrose to get full details of the program. They wanted to purchase a tractor and cultivator they planned to trade in would more than cover their downpayment and an FCC loan would cover the balance they learned.

Keep Costs Down

After making purchase arrangements with their local machinery dealer, they returned to the FCC office to complete their syndicate agreement. Three days later, their application was approved and a cheque issued to complete the purchase.

The Cunninghams plan to make progressive use of this form of credit to maintain efficiency of equipment at a high level. Co-operative use of machinery will keep their purchase and upkeep costs at a minimum.

Mr. Hays also noted that a second syndicate has been formed. This one is at Medicine Hat, Alta., where seven farmers have banded together and received a loan to purchase specialized equipment needed to handle a total of 200 acres of fresh corn.

NO SIR!

FOR

SERVICE

543 elevators, 603 annexes,
600 seed outlets, 3 terminals.

SAVINGS

\$4,582,343 in patronage refunds
during last crop year.

SATISFACTION

Over 50,000 members own
and control the Pool.

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ALBERTA WHEAT POOL

A Farmer-Owned Co-operative
Working for Farm People.

30 days hath

September, **APRIL,**
June and November.

THE BIG PUSH IS ON!

During the month of April, your F.U.A. Income Tax Service is "taxed to the limit" of its endurance. So many people wait until the last minute to get their books together and their forms filled out. When they call on us for help with their returns, they find many others already ahead of them.

Give us a chance to do our best for you. Get your books and returns in to us **NOW!**

Call in,-

Write,

or Telephone

F.U.A. Income Tax Service

9934 - 106 Street, Edmonton, Alberta
Phone 424-0375

Adapting Leafcutter Bees

Hundreds of thousands of full-grown leafcutter bee larvae are stirring in their cocoons in cool dark storage in western Canadian farms.

They are waiting for a joyous six-week live-and-work "bee" planned for them between June 20 and August 5. That is the effective pollination date for alfalfa on most of the Canadian plains—and pollinating alfalfa is the leafcutter's "cup of tea."

On their terrain around the Mediterranean Sea — and even parts of the United States — the leafcutter is rewarded for work by seeing some of her progeny take wing before she herself dies. There the insect lives under natural conditions and enjoys two generations to the season.

Change Demanded

But the Canadians who need the leafcutter to pollinate their alfalfa have to impose artificial conditions on the little immigrant to save the lives of her progeny for next years work.

One of the new demands is that she become a one-generation insect. Another is that the female must learn to work in cooler weather than she does now.

Dr. G. A. Hobbs, whose name has become synonymous with the leafcutter in this country, has had to devise management procedures for the imported variety, which is called *Megachille rotundata* to distinguish it from 14 native leafcutter breeds in western Canada.

He says it is necessary to remove the nest stands from the fields as soon as the tube-like nests are filled with cells. They should be put in controlled-atmosphere storage to prevent further development of the larvae, and to protect them against cold winter weather.

Storage ensures the farmer that he will have pollinators for next year's crop. He moves them from storage to incubators 15 days before the alfalfa is due to flower. As the bees begin to emerge he places the stands of nests in the fields.

The female is soon fertilized and after a quick trip to the alfalfa she establishes her nest and lays her first egg. From then on she is in a frenzy of activity, making cells from leaf cuttings, provisioning them from the flowers and laying her eggs on the provisions. She has six weeks to fashion some three dozen cells. She will plug up the nests with leaf cuttings and soon die in the crop she has helped to fertilize.

A Better Bee

Dr. Hobbs claims that a one-generation type of bee is evolving naturally from three years of raising the insect in Canada. Second-generation bees are not given the opportunity to raise young so their numbers are rapidly diminishing among bees raised here.

Breeding a hardier type of leafcutter will involve chilling and isolating emerging bees. The temperature will gradually be raised and only bees that respond to the lower temperatures will be selected for mating.

Dr. Hobbs hopes to breed a rotundata leafcutter that will fly at 65 degrees. Last summer a cold spell hit some areas in the West, and proved the need for such a bee.

Test Farm Contract Signed

Agriculture Minister Harry Hays announced the signing of a contract that will put into operation the first of four special test farms.

Under the agreement, G. D. Brown will operate a 200-acre test farm in the Almonte, Ont., area for the Canada Department of Agriculture. The contract is for a period of three years beginning February 1. (Almonte is about 25 miles southwest of Ottawa).

The test farm program, under which it is planned to establish a farm in the Maritimes, one in Quebec, and one in Western Canada, is aimed at pointing the way to increased farm efficiency and revenue in areas where land is of marginal value.

Each farm will serve as a practical model to show farmers how they can get the most out of their operations—or a field trial of an economic farm unit.

The farm near Almonte will be geared to the problems of those Eastern Canadian farmers whose lands are marginal and whose incomes, because of this, stem mostly from the production of milk for manufacturing.

"One of the most serious problems facing these farmers is the imbalance of the expenditure-to-revenue ratio," Mr. Hays said.

A practical evaluation will be made of the possibility of improving income through the rearing and marketing of calves sired by beef bulls out of Holstein dams.

For the project, a herd of 65 Holstein cows will be supplied by the Department. They will be bred to beef bulls. The contractor will supply the land, buildings, equipment, and labor.

All aspects of the Almonte project—including livestock weights, feed costs, labor expenditures and revenues — will be documented carefully to provide data for other farmers.

Operating costs, plus management fee, will amount to about \$27,500 annually but this amount will be reduced by returns from sales of milk and calves.

HERBICIDES CONSIDERED

The efficiency of both old and new herbicides was stressed at a recent meeting of the Western Section of the National Weed Committee.

Well over 60 herbicides were reviewed and placed in various categories in accordance with their possible and proper use. In the case of dicamba, discussions centered around its possible use to control tartary and wild buckwheat and smartweed in barley. It is already used to control these and other weeds in wheat and oats.

A number of trials have indicated that lower rates of dicamba alone or in combination with 2,4-D or 2,4-D and MCPP might be considered for barley. Whether or not it has been registered for use on barley in 1965 has not yet been announced.

TCA was registered last year for use on barley, oats and flax to control green foxtail, a weed rapidly increasing in Alberta. Some damage occurred to grain on light sandy soil but not on loam or clay soils during last year's trials.

Selective herbicides such as 2,4-D and related compounds have not constituted a residue or health hazard. Proper use, however, must be impressed on the user to enable him to obtain higher yields, economic production and a quality product without creating a danger to bird, animal or human life.

"Critical Path" Planning for EXPO

A complex, computer-based method of industrial time scheduling called "Critical Path" planning has kept work on EXPO '67 right on schedule. And some projects, such as the bridge linking the MacKay Pier on the Montreal waterfront to the main EXPO site on St. Helen's Island, are ahead of schedule.

The "Critical Path" method not only formulates work schedules for all EXPO projects, step by step, it reports delays instantly. It also sorts out priorities—which projects should be done in what order—and it indicates which projects can be done at the same time.

EXPO officials estimate that use of "Critical Path" planning represents savings of from 10 to 25 per cent in time and two to 10 per cent in costs. H. F. Prothero, engineer in charge, pointed out recently, however, that "Critical Path" is not an automatic substitute for good management; it is merely an electronic aid to the efficient husbanding of tasks and priorities.

Deadlines

It is up to EXPO workers themselves to keep pace with the deadlines produced by the "Critical Path" computers. And EXPO's progress report, so far, is "bang on schedule and coming on like gangbusters." All deadlines have been met.

The huge task of transporting millions of tons of fill for creating the exhibition islands in the St. Lawrence River and extending MacKay Pier was completed on schedule. This huge engineering project has been compared in scale to the building of the Pyramids in the Middle East. Many areas of the construction on the MacKay Pier-St. Helen's Island are as much as 10 days ahead of schedule.

Car Owners Check Points

A complete car check-up by a reliable mechanic or technician will cover almost 40 point of a vehicle. But there are 10 places the owner can check by himself. Check these 10 positions regularly:

Rear-view mirrors: for condition, mounting and cleanliness.
Horn: for satisfactory operation.
Windshield wipers: for condition of blades, operation of motor and condition of windshield washer.
Glass: condition and operation of windows, and cleanliness.
Lights: front and rear lights for operation, and aiming of headlights.

Direction signals: for operation.
Tires: tread wear, pressure, cracks.

Steering: play in steering gear, front tires for misalignment.

Brakes: master fluid level, hydraulic system for fluid leaks, foot and hand brakes for reserve and stopping ability.

Exhaust system: manifold pipes and mufflers for tightness and leaks.

Some of these items can be checked by a simple and regular walk around the car, testing as you go.

—Canadian Highway Safety Council

Investigate First

Beware of a limited ranking company which has been advertising that it will take cattle and pay the farmer 10 per cent on his investment in the stock.

Bruce Brown of the Edmonton Better Business Bureau suggests that farmers thoroughly investigate such an offer before accepting it. Nobody contemplating this type of deal should ask himself why or how a person could afford to pay such a high rate of interest on the investment.

Mr. Brown advises checking the credit rating of the firm, the involvement of the owners in other businesses and their reputation with your banker.

Co-op Statistics

The latest available statistics are for the fiscal year ending in 1963. Canadian co-operatives had a combined volume of \$1,650 million in 1963 in marketing and purchasing business, up \$255 million from 1962, the highest one-year gain on record. The biggest increase was in marketing of grains, but sales of livestock and livestock products also showed a substantial increase. Total sales of farm supplies and merchandise rose from \$428 to \$469 million. Total assets of all associations went up by \$55 million to \$804,600,000.

The total number of co-operative associations reporting in 1963 was 2706, down 130 from the previous year's figure; and membership also showed a decrease of 51,000 to 1,614,870, reflecting the steady decline in rural population, which has been the backbone of the Canadian movement.

Pool Reserves Purchased

On Friday, February 19th, the Alberta Wheat Pool mailed to members cheques totalling \$469,589. These covered the purchase of reserves held by the estates of 948 members who died during 1964, and 1,435 members who retired from farming and disposed of their land during that period.

A further purchase will be made during the first week in March which will cover reserves held by members over 70 years of age and 5½ percent of reserves held by corporate members.

Apple Month Boosted Sales

A month-long campaign by the fruit industry last November sharply stimulated the appetite of Canadians for fresh apples, observes the Canadian Horticultural Council.

Sponsored by producers and the Canadian Fruit Wholesaler's Association, "National Apple Month"—including a special "Apple Week"—increased consumption and helped move one of Canada's biggest apple crops.

Retail stores co-operated in the campaign by staging elaborate displays of the fruit and reported sales as much as 10 times greater than usual.

Fodder Bank

A series of relatively productive years, and easy winters has reduced farmer interest in a proposed "Fodder Bank," but this is likely to change now, the F.U.A. suggests.

In its submission to the Alberta government, the F.U.A. pointed out that shortages of feed have inflated hay prices, and have caused a great deal of worry to livestock producers.

A way of avoiding this type of situation was put forward by the F.U.A. Basically, it was suggested that a fodder bank could be set up along the lines of the present very successful seed cleaning associations. Technical details involved in storage of feed supplies can be overcome, the F.U.A. feels.

YOUR CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE COMPANIES REPORT

1964 was a successful year . . . A successful year made possible by the support of policyholders, co-operatives, credit unions and their members across Canada.

CO-OPERATIVE LIFE

	1964	1963
Insurance in force	\$ 567,091,000	\$ 442,869,000
Premium Income	5,933,000	4,827,000
Investment Income	917,000	732,000
Net Operating Income	1,174,184	958,000
Benefit Payments:		
To Beneficiaries	1,824,887	1,428,021
To Living Policyholders	1,235,710	785,894
Assets	18,559,062	16,118,980

CO-OPERATIVE FIRE AND CASUALTY

	1964	1963
Written Premiums	\$ 10,662,000	\$ 9,457,000
Earned Premiums	7,324,000	6,209,000
Net Underwriting Gain (loss)	452,338	(399,369)
Total Assets	9,495,000	6,209,000

CO-OP INVESTMENTS

Co-op securities accounted for \$8,249,718 or 34.6% of all the Companies' investments. In 1964, 70% of the increase in investments was in co-operative securities. In addition, all premiums are deposited with the co-operative credit centrals across Canada. This makes additional funds available to the movement on a short-term basis. At December 31, 1964 these deposits totalled \$1,484,724.

SERVICES

Total insurance planning is a feature of the Co-op All Service Program. Policyholders benefit from the personalized attention of one co-op representative for all their insurance. A representative trained and qualified to advise on family life, health, home, farm and auto insurance needs.

A complete Co-operative Insurance Service is also available for co-operatives, credit unions and their members. These services include Employee Group Life and Pension Plans; Credit Union Loan and Savings Insurance; Special Member Life Plans; Co-operative Business Insurance; and Credit Union Composite Policies.



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FARM MACHINERY

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FARM LANDS

RANCH FOR SALE—1120 acres deeded, 320 acres grazing permit; located Grande Valley 30 mi. east of Calgary. Apply R. Watson, Ste 204, 1440 Memorial Drive N.W., Calgary. 2